(c) and (d) Government has approved financial restructuring of the company before inviting bids for strategic sale for a minimum of 51 % equity which could go up to 100%. Accordingly, reliefs and concessions have been provided and Consultants have been engaged for JV formation/strategic sale of Nepa Limited. The final decision in regard to selling of the company is dependent on responses received by the Merchant Banker.

Modernisation of BHEL

† 2993. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to modernise Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for the modernisation of BHEL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: (a) to (c) BHEL has embarked upon a holistic modernisation programme for its facilities at various manufacturing units, encompassing manufacturing, assembly & testing activities in an integrated manner.

Modernisation schemes amounting to Rs. 580 crores have already been formulated so far and out of this, schemes amounting to Rs. 310 crores have been approved and are under various stages of implementation at manufacturing plants of BHEL.

Doordarshan's Agreement with CNN

2994. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has entered into an agreement with CNN to supplement its international coverage when a similar agreement reached earlier was scrapped;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the annual expenditure involved in the deal?

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.